

of fallen heroes. Today, as our brave men and women in uniform fight terrorism and advance freedom, the flag inspires patriotism and pride across our Nation and around the world.

Each year on June 14, we honor the American flag and recall the adoption of our first official national flag by the Continental Congress in 1777. The first Flag Day observances began quietly in the 19th century as State and local celebrations recognizing the anniversary of the Stars and Stripes. Inspired by these patriotic gatherings, President Woodrow Wilson established the first national observance by proclamation in 1916. To commemorate the adoption of our flag, the Congress, by joint resolution approved August 3, 1949, as amended (63 Stat. 492), designated June 14 of each year as "Flag Day" and requested that the President issue an annual proclamation calling for its observance and for the display of the Flag of the United States on all Federal Government buildings. The Congress also requested, by joint resolution approved June 9, 1966, as amended (80 Stat. 194), that the President issue annually a proclamation designating the week in which June 14 occurs as "National Flag Week" and calling upon all citizens of the United States to display the flag during that week.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim June 14, 2004, as Flag Day and the week beginning June 13, 2004, as National Flag Week. I direct the appropriate officials to display the flag on all Federal Government buildings during that week, and I urge all Americans to observe Flag Day and National Flag Week by flying the Stars and Stripes from their homes and other suitable places. I also call upon the people of the United States to observe with pride and all due ceremony those days from Flag Day through Independence Day, also set aside by the Congress (89 Stat. 211), as a time to honor America, to celebrate our heritage in public gatherings and activities, and to publicly recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand four, and of the

Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-eighth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 9:14 a.m., June 15, 2004]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on June 16.

Remarks at an 80th Birthday Celebration for President George Bush in Houston, Texas

June 12, 2004

Thank you all. As you can see, I have been given the high honor to represent my three brothers, my sister, and our respective families at the 80th birthday party for our dad, our Gampy.

You're probably wondering how I got to be the family spokesman. [Laughter] Well, we polled the family, and rumor has it, somewhere in our large family, the tiebreaking vote for tonight's speaker was cast by a fourth cousin by the name of Chad. [Laughter] While holding his son above the crib, Chad's father reports that the lad burped, and it sounded like "George W." [Laughter] Once again, my life was affected by a dangling chad. [Laughter]

Yesterday we said farewell to a good man, our 40th President, Ronald Reagan. Today we honor another good man. I want to thank you all for coming to wish our dad a happy birthday.

We thank those who worked so hard to make this event a great success. We thank the entertainers for coming. Right before I came on the stage, I had a chance to say hello to Dennis Miller. He was somewhat disappointed. I said, "Why?" He said, "I thought we were raising money for a thousand pints of light." [Laughter]

We thank the underwriters, the sponsors, and the organizing committee. We thank the honorary chairman, Dan Quayle. Dan's not only a good friend; he's also one of our three favorite Vice Presidents—you know, Dick, Dan, and Dad. [Laughter]

Most of you are here because over the years you have come to know and love our dad as well as his rather shy and retiring wife.

He has touched you because of his decency and warmth, his humility and humor. You know what we know, that we are all fortunate to have George Bush as a part of our lives.

Some of you are here to pay tribute to a man who has made your life's calling a little easier. Because of our honoree's sense of duty and service, millions have been raised to heal hurt and disease as well as educate our young. Some are here to see the 80-year-old dude, who tomorrow will strap on a helmet, zip up a suit, and launch forth from a perfectly safe aerospace vehicle, arms sprayed, back arched, yelling at Father Time, "Take this, you old man." One or two of you thought the Astros were at home. *[Laughter]*

Jeb, Neil, Marvin, Doro, and I are here with our families because of our deep and pure love for our dad. We love his enthusiasm for life and his dedication to his faith, his family, his friends, and his country. We respect and honor the example he has set in service to our Nation, as a fighter pilot, a Representative, a diplomat, and a President. We take comfort in knowing that he was the same caring, decent man before, during, and after his time in the arena.

We like to do things with him. He is a fun guy. We like to fish, throw a shoe, play peggity, or play golf with him. We like to talk and laugh with him. We still get a kick out of his dirty shirt joke or "show him a clean one" line. We understand his gentle tease and have learned the art of the effective needle from him. We appreciate those times when he gives us ample material with his weird taste in clothes. *[Laughter]*

We are awed by his energy, his zest for life. If ever there was a guy who could say his dance card was completely full, it is our dad. We love the fact that he loves Mother. And we are amazed and deeply touched by his unconditional love for us.

So here's to you, young fella. May God grant you health, joy, and many years of happiness. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:30 p.m. at Minute Maid Park. A portion of these remarks could not be verified because the tape was incomplete.

Remarks on the Unveiling of the Official Portraits of President William J. Clinton and First Lady Hillary Clinton

June 14, 2004

Good morning. Thank you, Henry. Laura and I appreciate you all coming. President Clinton and Senator Clinton, welcome home. All who live here are temporary residents. The portraits that are presented today will be held permanently in the White House collection for all the ages. And so beginning today, the likenesses of President William Jefferson Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will take their place in a line that began with George and Martha Washington.

Laura and I are pleased to welcome members of the Clinton and Rodham family. Thank you all for coming. It's great to see Chelsea. The fact that you survived your teenage years in the White House—*[laughter]*—speaks to the fact that you had a great mom and dad. We are pleased that Mrs. Dorothy Rodham is here. Welcome. We're glad you're here and those two boys you're still trying to raise. *[Laughter]* Hugh and Tony, thank you for coming. We're glad you're here.

It's good to see so many who served our Nation so ably in the Clinton administration. Thank you all for coming back. Thanks for your service to the country, and welcome back to the White House. We're really glad you're here, and I know the President is as well.

As you might know, my father and I have decided to call each other by numbers. *[Laughter]* He's 41, I'm 43. It's a great honor to—it's a great pleasure to honor number 42. We're glad you're here, 42.

The years have done a lot to clarify the strengths of this man. As a candidate for any office, whether it be the State attorney general or the President, Bill Clinton showed incredible energy and great personal appeal. As chief executive, he showed a deep and far-ranging knowledge of public policy, a great compassion for people in need, and the forward-looking spirit that Americans like in a President. Bill Clinton could always see a